

“DARK HORROR” PART 5



SPAWN®

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THE FUTURE OF COMICS
25
image
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PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Cyan confronts Al about the fact that he's Spawn. What Cyan can't comprehend is with all of his powers how he is unable to protect her. Al knows she is right and tries to assure her he's working on the situation. All of the sudden, a swarm of black crows comes barreling down out the sky, led by a ghost wielding a knife. Spawn pushes Cyan out of the way, but she becomes trapped by a demon. To escape, she uses her powers to transport and finds herself underwater and then in a desert. She finally transports herself to her host family, but something is terribly wrong. She comes face to face with an evil man who puts her and the family under a spell. They are unable to move and Cyan watches in horror as the entire family is killed right in front of her.



"SHE HASN'T TRIED TO TALK IN OVER AN HOUR. PROBABLY AFRAID. THAT'S GOOD."

"THIS... GHOST OR WHATEVER SHE IS, NEEDS TO LEARN THAT IF THERE'S NO MERCY FOR THE LIVING, THEN THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY FOR THE DEAD, EITHER."



"ESPECIALLY AFTER
WHAT THEY DID TO
YOKO'S FATHER."

UH?



LEAVE
THEM
ALONE!



SHUNK



YOU
SHOULDN'T
HAVE DONE
THAT.



"YOKO'S DAD SHOULD HAVE
RUN AWAY. EVERYBODY
SHOULD RUN AWAY."

"SHIZUMU MADE IT SO I COULDN'T CLOSE MY EYES. BUT I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED, NOT REALLY, LIKE MY MIND JUST WENT SOMEWHERE ELSE."

"THEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN I FELT THIS DARK PRESSURE LIKE THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA."



"MY LIFE HAS ALWAYS BEEN FILLED WITH SHADOWS. THINGS NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO SEE OR FEEL. AND ALL OF THE THINGS I'D FELT AND SEEN IN MY LIFE CAME ROARING BACK."

"ALL OF IT! ALL THE PAIN AND ANGER AND SHAME THAT MEN LIKE THESE SHOVE ON US... THAT SHOVED ON ME IN MY LIFE..."



"I TURNED IT ON THEM! EVERY NEGATIVE EMOTION I'VE FELT, I TURNED IT ON **THEM!**"





"REFLECTING BACK AT THEM, WHAT THEY SO CASUALLY DO TO US, AT TENFOLD THE INTENSITY. AND AS THEY BEGAN TO TREMBLE, THEY COULD SEE I HAD BECOME..."

...A 'BLACK MIRROR.'



"AND FOR ONCE THEY KNEW WHAT IT FELT LIKE TO BE ONE OF THEIR OWN VICTIMS."



"AFTER THEY TOOK YOKO, I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING."



"THEN I WAS
SOMEWHERE ELSE.

"THAT SOMEWHERE
WAS A HOSPITAL.
THEY SAID I WAS
BLACKED OUT ON
FLOOR WHEN THEY
FOUND ME.

"AND AS I LAID
THERE ALL I COULD
THINK OF WAS: THEY
WERE ALL DEAD. THE
LITTLE BOY. YOKO'S
PARENTS. AND IT
TOOK ME TO A
PLACE I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO ESCAPE.

"A PLACE I'VE
BEEN TRYING
SO HARD TO
LET GO.

"UNCLE AL KNEW ALL THIS.
SO HE TOLD ME I HAD TO
GET OUT OF HERE. OUT
OF JAPAN. HE SAID HE'D
MADE A TRAGIC MISTAKE
BRINGING ME HERE TO
START WITH.



"HE COACHED ME WHAT TO SAY TO THE POLICE WHEN THEY ASKED THEIR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DEAD BODIES AT YOKO'S. IT TOOK SOME TIME BUT EVENTUALLY THEY ACCEPTED MY STORY. I TOLD THEM NOTHING ABOUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENED... OR ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT I DID."

"AFTERWARDS THEY THANKED ME AND SAID I WAS VERY "LUCKY." IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL IT WHEN PEOPLE YOU CARE ABOUT DIE?"



"WHEN I WAS HEALTHY ENOUGH, AL TOOK ME TO THE AIRPORT AND PUT ME ON A PLANE."



"WHATEVER HE WAS PLANNING, I DIDN'T CARE. IT WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH. SO, WHEN THE LIGHT WENT ON THAT SAID PASSENGERS COULD GET UP AND GO TO THE BATHROOM, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I DID."



"I'M SURE I CAUSED A SHIT STORM WHEN THE ATTENDANTS COULDN'T FIND ME."





"EVERYTHING ELSE IN MY LIFE HAS BEEN STOLEN. MY MOM. MY INNOCENCE. EVERYTHING."

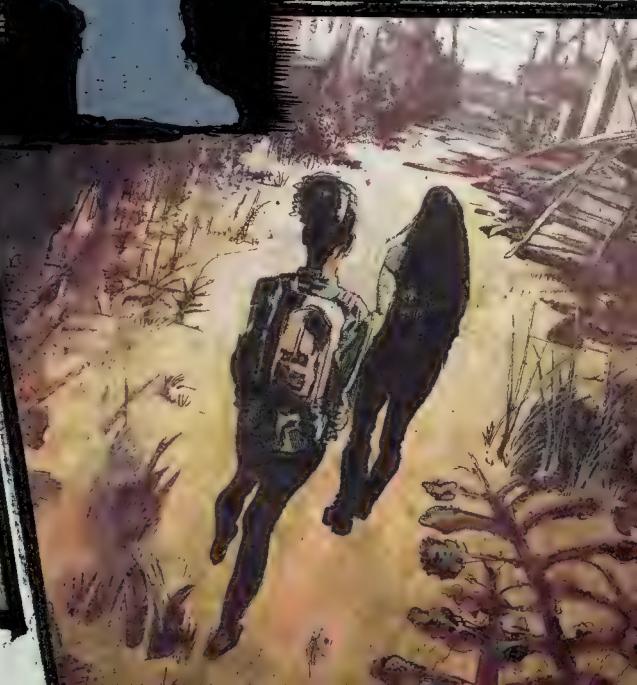
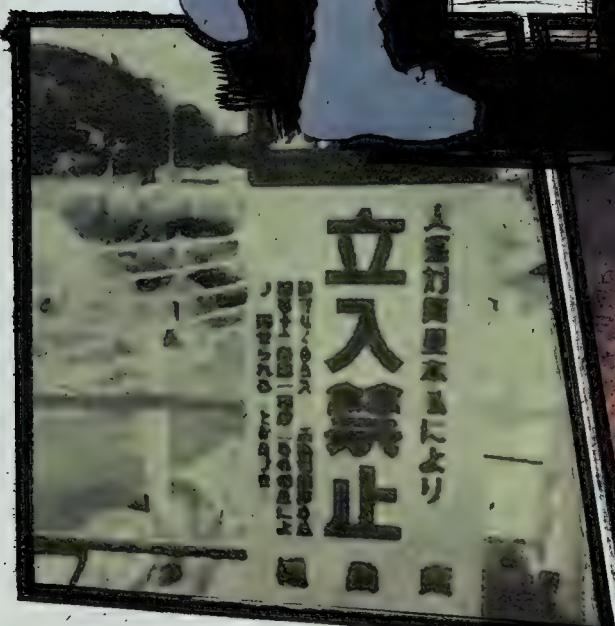
"AND I'LL SEE THEM ALL DEAD BEFORE I LET THEM THINK ABOUT LAYING A FINGER ON LITTLE JAKE AND KATIE. I WON'T LET THEM TOUCH MY FAMILY."



"SHE STARTS HER TREK. SHE'S GOING TO SHOW ME WHERE THEY TOOK YOKO."



"AND I DON'T CARE HOW LONG IT TAKES US TO GET THERE."



"I WONDER WHAT UNCLE AL'S DOING. HOPEFULLY, IT'S SOMETHING USEFUL."

"SOMETHING THAT HURTS."



MR. O'S
OFFICE!
WHERE IS
IT?

(I
DON'T...)

WRONG
ANSWER.

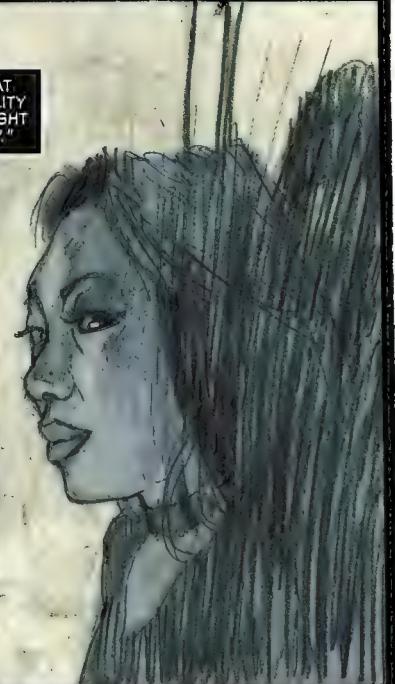
SNAP

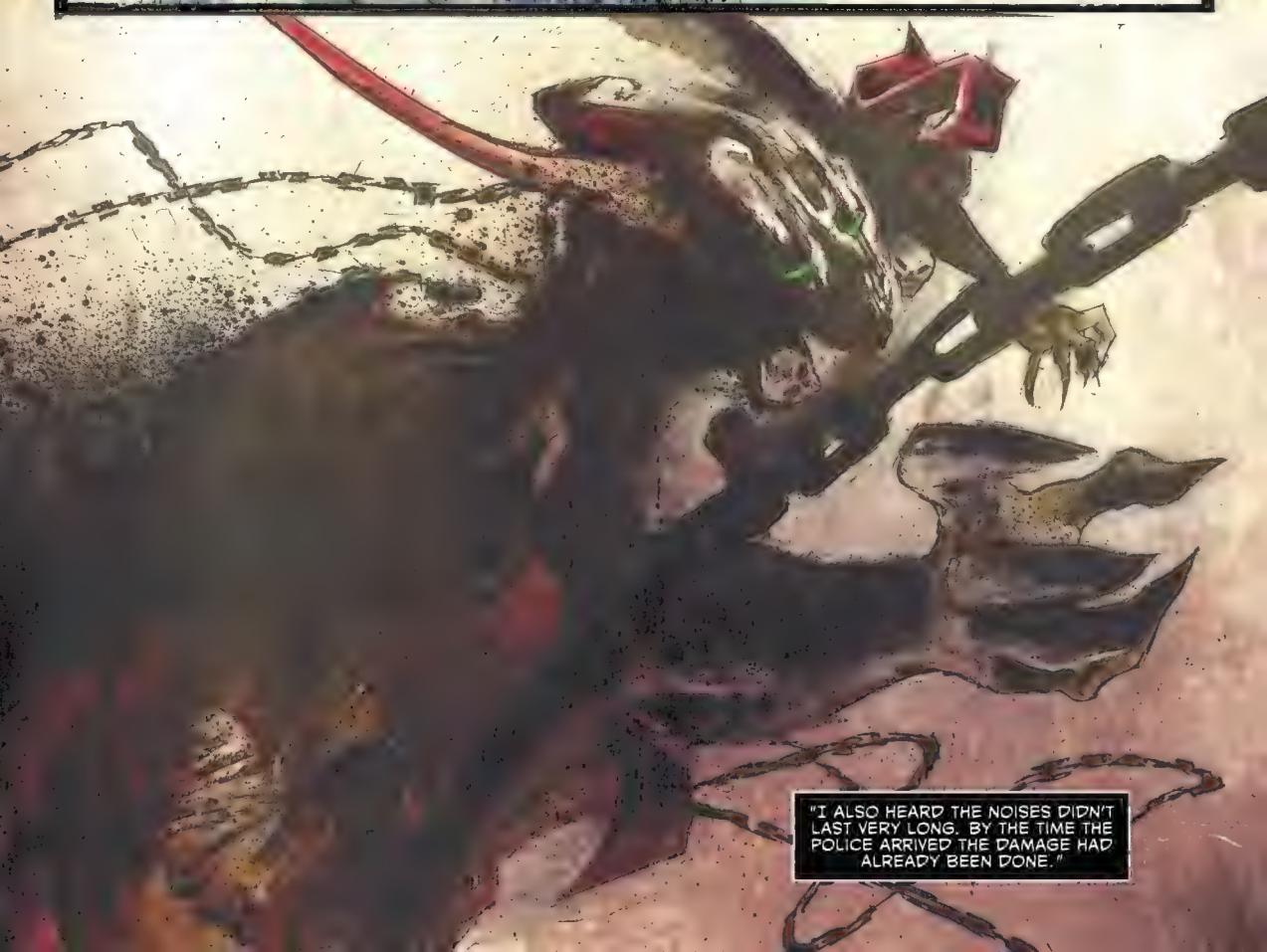
"LATER, I FOUND OUT AL WENT BACK TO THE WOMAN HE HAD SAVED FROM SHIZUMU'S CLUB. BECAUSE HE KNEW THE YAKUZA TO BE 'PREDICTABLE' AT TIMES AND THEY WEREN'T GOING TO LET THIS WOMAN JUST WALK AWAY."

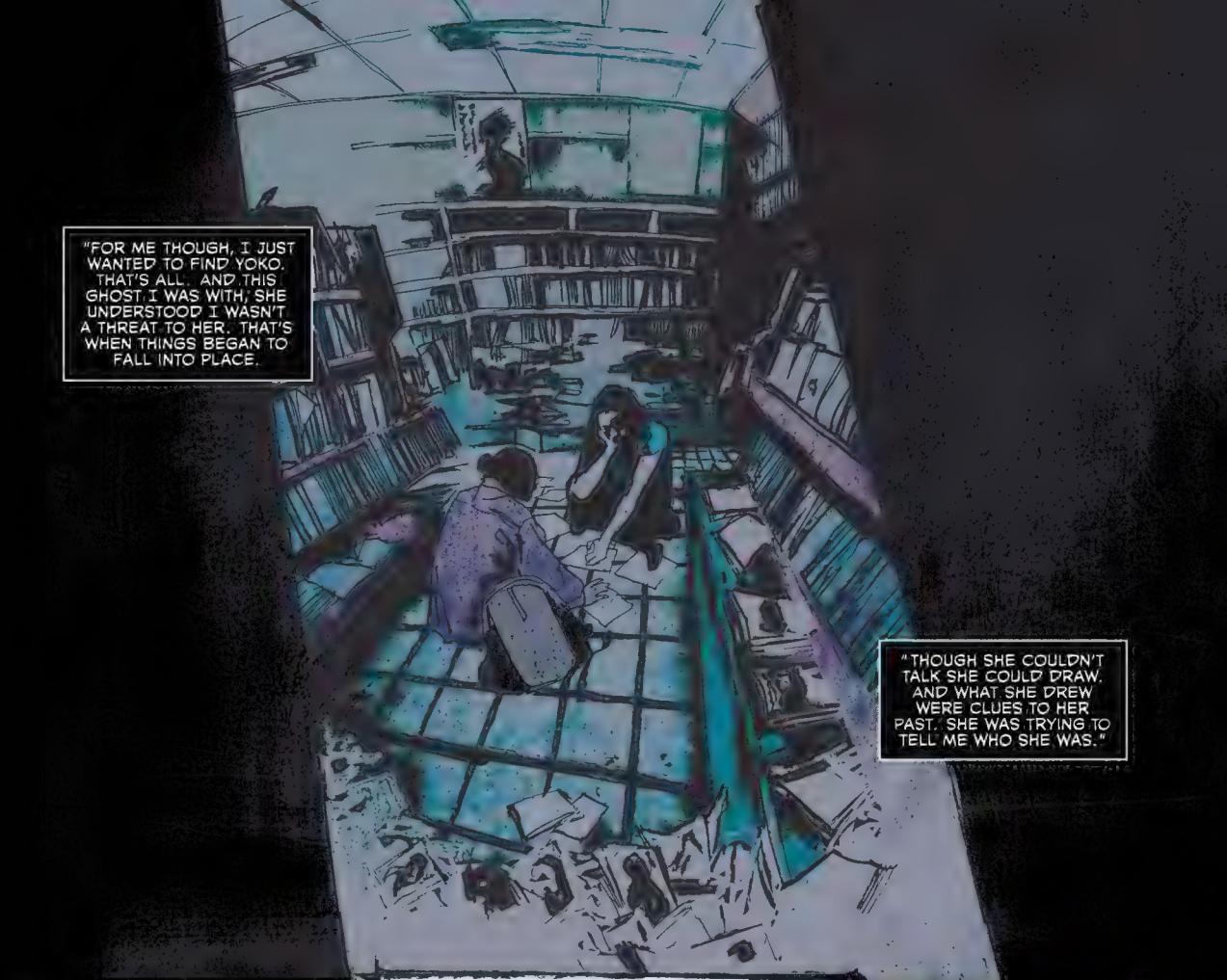
* See issue 278 -- Todd

"THE YAKUZA ALWAYS TIE UP THEIR LOOSE ENDS..."

"... AND THAT PREDICTABILITY PUT THEM RIGHT IN HIS TRAP."







"FOR ME THOUGH, I JUST
WANTED TO FIND YOKO.
THAT'S ALL. AND THIS
GHOST I WAS WITH, SHE
UNDERSTOOD I WASN'T
A THREAT TO HER. THAT'S
WHEN THINGS BEGAN TO
FALL INTO PLACE."

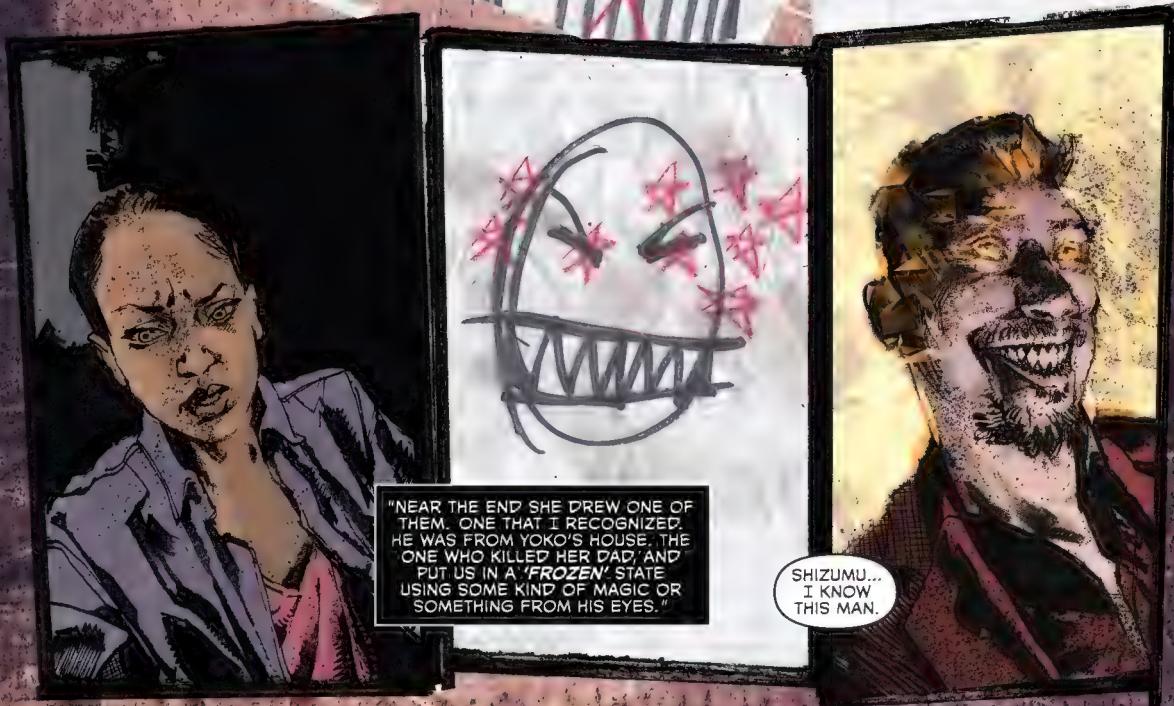
"THOUGH SHE COULDN'T
TALK SHE COULD DRAW.
AND WHAT SHE DREW
WERE CLUES TO HER
PAST. SHE WAS TRYING TO
TELL ME WHO SHE WAS."





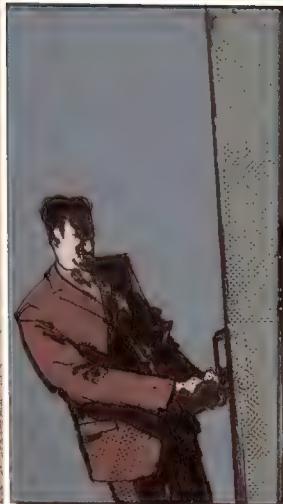
"FOR HOURS SHE SCRIBBLED AND SKETCHED AWAY, AND EACH PIECE BECAME ANOTHER PART IN A PUZZLE SHE WANTED ME TO SEE."

"I LEARNED THERE WAS A PET STORE OF SOME KIND, AND THE PEOPLE INSIDE IT KIDNAPPED KIDS AND ADULTS. SHE WAS ONE OF THEM. THEN SHE SHOWED ME THAT THEY KEPT HER IN A CAGE, LITERALLY, SHE WAS TREATED LIKE AN ANIMAL. WHO WERE THESE PSYCHOS THAT WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?"



"NEAR THE END SHE DREW ONE OF THEM. ONE THAT I RECOGNIZED. HE WAS FROM YOKO'S HOUSE. THE ONE WHO KILLED HER DAD, AND PUT US IN A 'FROZEN' STATE USING SOME KIND OF MAGIC OR SOMETHING FROM HIS EYES."

"SHIZUMA WAS HIS NAME."





WHAT'S THIS? A BUILDING?
WERE YOU IN THAT BUILDING?
WHEN? BEFORE OR AFTER THEY TOOK YOU TO THE PET SHOP?
AFTER? THEY BROUGHT YOU THERE AFTER?
COULD THAT BE THE SAME PLACE WHERE YOKO MIGHT BE?
IT IS, ISN'T IT?







SPAWN GROUND

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MONTHLY CONTEST

WIN a 10 minute Skype call with Todd McFarlane and some COOL McFarlane toys and comics!

Each month readers will be giving a secret code word available ONLY in Spawning Ground.

Enter that code word **HERE**:

mcfarlane.com/spawningground
for your chance to win awesome prizes!

Spawn 280 Code Word: **NEWSUPERHERO**

Winners will be notified by email two weeks after the release of the comic.

Good Luck!

Thank you all for being loyal fans of Spawn!

Shannon Bailey
Publishing Coordinator



NEXT ISSUE

DARK HORROR PART 6 of 6
A NEW HERO PREMIERES!
Look for this exciting new character as she makes her heroic debut. Only ONE ISSUE left until the thrilling conclusion of "DARK HORROR!"

VELVET DEADLY CLASS ROYAL CITY
LAZARUS EAST OF WEST I KILL GIANTS
THE WALKING DEAD I HATE FAIRYLAND
KING CITY SEX CRIMINALS
KILL OR BE KILLED CURSE WORDS RAT QUEENS
SOUTHERN BASTARDS SPAWN THE WICKED + THE DIVINE BLUE MONDAY
MONSTRESS CHEW KINGSMAN
HOWTOONS THEY'RE NOT LIKE US SUNSTONE NOWHERE MEN
DESCENDER PAPER GIRLS
OCTOPUS PIE WYTCHES SHUTTER
TOKYO GHOST THE BLACK MONDAY MURDERS BITCH PLANET
SAGA MOTOR CRUSH WAYWARD TREES
CRIMINAL THE AUTUMNLANDS
PLUTONA LOW
REVIVAL NAILBITER
CAMP MIDNIGHT
SNOTGIRL ODDLY NORMAL
MAGE HINGES
BLACK SCIENCE
PRETTY DEADLY
THE FADE OUT



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